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**EXAMINER:** Cynthia E. Collins

**FROM:** David R. Saliwanchik

**COMPANY:** U.S. Patent Office  
Art Unit 1638

**DATE:** May 19, 2004

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**NO. OF PAGES**  
**(INCLUDING COVER SHEET):** 19

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**SUBJECT/MESSAGE:**

Serial No. 09/888,035; filed June 22, 2001  
Attorney Docket No. SPO-115C1

- 1) Petition and Fee for Extension of Time (1 page);
- 2) Amendment under 37 CFR §1.116 (16 pages); and
- 3) Notice of Appeal (1 page).

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below:

May 19, 2004

David Saliwanchik

David R. Saliwanchik, Patent Attorney

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
Examining Group 1638  
Patent Application  
Docket No. SPO-115C1  
Serial No. 09/888,035

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner : Cynthia E. Collins  
Art Unit : 1638  
Applicants : Atsunori Fukada and Yoshiyuki Tanaka  
Serial No. : 09/888,035  
Conf. No. : 9222  
Filed : June 22, 2001  
For : Sodium/Proton Antiporter Gene

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

Sir:

A Petition and Fee for a three month Extension of Time through and including June 3, 2004, accompanies this Amendment.

In response to the Office Action dated December 3, 2003, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** follow the amendment sections of this paper.